

proposed company, and a purchase price should be named.)

5. What is the proposed nominal capital of the company?

6. How much of this is to be issued now?

7. Who are to be the directors?

8. Where is the registered office of the company to be situate?

9. Whether the company is to be a public or private company.

Having obtained these particulars from the client, the next thing to do is to inquire of the Companies Registration Office, Somerset House, W.C., whether the proposed name of the company is available for registration. This should be done by letter if possible, so as to obtain a written reply and avoid misunderstanding.

The reason for inquiring as to the name of the company being registrable, is that duplication of names is not permitted. It must be obvious that to permit the registration of a new company with a name similar to that of an existing company would lead to confusion, and care is taken by the authorities to ensure that such duplication is avoided. Even where the proposed name is a continuation of the private name of the firm—as "John Smith & Co., Limited/" duplication is not allowed, and such a firm would be asked to describe themselves as "John Smith & Company

(Book-sellers) Limited" or John Smith & Company (Wigan) Limited " or some other such name as will prevent duplication with the original and first registered company who were able to claim to be registered under the name of John Smith & Company Limited.